



SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

960 East 39th Avenue

Vancouver, BC

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Mackenzie Buzz

At Mackenzie School our goals as set by the SPC and staff are to improve the expressive language development of students through oral and written skills, to improve reading comprehension and to increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students.

Newsletter #8

Date: May 24th, 2017

Dear Mackenzie Parents:

It is hard to believe that we only have five weeks of school left before summer break. It is an extremely busy time here at Mackenzie.

We had a wonderful Welcome to Kindergarten event on May 12th for our 60 registered new Kindergarten students and their parents. We also had a very successful PAC sponsored Walk-a-Thon on May 19th. I would like to invite you all to our Sports Day which takes place on June 9th.

I know our students will enjoy the last part of this school year with many activities planned as well as all the learning which continues.

Bob Bodden
Principal

STAFFING NEWS: In general, schools with a population above 400 have a Vice Principal. Our school has been steadily below 400 students for the last several years. Sadly next year, Mackenzie will no longer have a Vice Principal.

Congratulations to Mrs. Paget who has been promoted to principal and will be moving to Brock Elementary. We are sorry to see her leave and wish her the best of luck in her new assignment.

As you may know I am retiring this year. Mr. Bruce Murton has been assigned as principal of Mackenzie starting on August 1st. He is an experienced administrator who will add a lot to the school community.

Stay tuned for more staffing information in our next newsletter.

WHO TO CONTACT

Bob Bodden Principal 604-713-4799	Nancy Paget Vice Principal 604-713-4799	Julie Manning Administrative Assistant 604-713-4799
Aaron Davis Acting Director of Instruction 604-713-4594	Dianne Turner Official Trustee official.trustee@vsb.bc.ca	Tracy Noel & David Smythe PAC Co-Chairs mackenziepac@gmail.com

2017/2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Our school calendar is on page 3 of this newsletter. It contains all of the important district and school dates for the year. Keep it somewhere safe!

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

A great big thank you to PAC for providing eight additional benches on our school grounds. They are the cheerful blue ones.

Before the end of June the front of our school should be getting a much needed pressure washing.

As well the east side of the school will undergo a major renovation project. All of the windows are to be replaced with new windows which will look the same as the originals. This project will begin July 4th and be completed by August 25th.

BADMINTON FESTIVAL: On May 1st, the Grade 7 Mackenzie Badminton team participated in the Badminton festival. This event took place in Tupper Secondary School. There were many teams from other schools that attended the Badminton Festival.

The gym at Tupper is very big, with two rows of six courts. Each court had a letter from A - L, and players were assigned to one of these courts, according to skill, throughout the whole tournament. The games were timed for five minutes each.

At the end, it was time to hand out the ribbons for first, second, and third place. Players received a ribbon if they played well and won almost all of their games. Harman Janda and Nathan Cheung from Mackenzie both came in second place in their courts.

Overall, the Badminton festival was a fun and exciting experience. We had a chance to meet new people and practice our skills with them. Thank you to Ms. Young and Mr. Millway for organizing the Mackenzie Badminton Team so we could participate in the event at Tupper.

Go, Mackenzie, Go!

By Taha M

Grade 7 Badminton Team Member



Is your family expecting a baby sometime between June and August of this year? You and your baby could be a Roots of Empathy family.

Roots of Empathy is a program for Elementary school students to increase empathy - understanding how another person feels. This program is proven to reduce aggression and bullying.

Your commitment...

1. Baby must be between 2 and 4 months old in October 2017.
2. 9 visits to the classroom with one or both parents over the course of the 2017/2018 school year (about every 3-4 weeks apart). Visits are about 30 minutes long and start in October.
3. Telling stories and answering questions about your baby during your visit.

This program is a valuable tool to help increase empathy by learning about babies' needs and observing the loving relationship between parents and babies.

All families are welcome.

Please contact Catherine McCambridge at cmccambridge@vsb.bc.ca if interested.

**SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2017-2018 CALENDAR**

Keep this somewhere
safe for next year!

DATE			ACTIVITY
September	5 th	Tuesday	School opens. Students present 9:00-10:00am
September	15 th	Friday	Individual student photos
September	21 st	Thursday	Meet the Teacher - evening (details to follow)
September	22 nd	Friday	Professional Development Day (District Wide) NO SCHOOL
October	9 th	Monday	Thanksgiving NO SCHOOL
October	19 th	Thursday	Parent/Teacher Conferences 2-6pm All students dismissed at 2:00pm
October	20 th	Friday	Professional Development Day (Province Wide) NO SCHOOL
October	24 th	Tuesday	Individual student photo retakes
November	10 th	Friday	Curriculum Implementation Day NO SCHOOL
November	13 th	Monday	Remembrance Day holiday NO SCHOOL
November	22 nd	Wednesday	Parent/Teacher Conferences 2-6pm All students dismissed at 2:00pm
December	1 st	Friday	Professional Development Day NO SCHOOL
December	22 nd	Friday	Last day of school before Winter Vacation
December 25 th to January 5 th			School closed for Winter Vacation
January	8 th	Monday	School reopens
January	29 th	Monday	Curriculum Implementation Day NO SCHOOL
February	12 th	Monday	Family Day NO SCHOOL
February	19 th	Monday	Professional Development Day (District Wide) NO SCHOOL
February	28 th	Wednesday	Parent/Teacher Conferences 2-6pm All students dismissed at 2:00pm
March	1 st	Thursday	Parent/Teacher Conferences 2-6pm All students dismissed at 2:00pm
March	16 th	Friday	Last day of school before Spring Break
March 19 th to March 29 th			School closed for Spring Break NO SCHOOL
March	30 th	Friday	Good Friday NO SCHOOL
April	2 nd	Monday	Easter Monday NO SCHOOL
April	3 rd	Tuesday	School reopens after Spring Break
April	27 th	Friday	Professional Development Day (District Wide) NO SCHOOL
May	1 st	Tuesday	Class photos
May	18 th	Friday	SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION NO SCHOOL
May	21 st	Monday	Victoria Day NO SCHOOL
June	28 th	Thursday	Last day of school for students
June	29 th	Friday	Administration Day NO SCHOOL

School Operation Overview

Number of days in session..... 187
 Number of days of instruction..... 179
 Hours of Instruction in a School Year:..... 874 Hours
 Number of Days of Non-Instruction. . . 7 Non-Instructional Days
 1 Administration Day (June 29)

2017-2018 SCHOOL HOURS

8:55am Bell rings at 8:55 a.m. - 1st period begins at 9:00a.m.
 Recess Recess break is from 10:35 - 10:55 a.m.
 12:10pm All students are dismissed for lunch at 12:10 p.m
 Lunch Lunch is from 12:10 p.m. - 12:57 p.m.
 12:57pm The afternoon bell rings at 12:57 p.m.
 3:00 pm All students are dismissed at 3:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events

DATE			Participants	EVENT
May	26 th	Friday	Everyone	Fundraising lunch (menu is Kids' Favourites)
May	30 th	Tuesday	Grade 3s	Swim to Survive at Hillcrest 12:30-3:15
May	31 st	Wednesday	Everyone	Walk-a-Thon Prize Assembly - p.m.
June	1 st	Thursday	Track runners	Swangaard Track meet all day
June	2 nd	Friday	Divisions 6 & 7	Field trip to Science World 9:15-3:00
June 5 th to 19 th			All students	Tennis lessons
June	6 th	Tuesday	Grade 3s	Swim to Survive at Hillcrest 12:30-3:15
June	7 th	Wednesday	Divisions 10, 11, 12, 15, 16	Matinee concert at John Oliver 10:30-11:30
June	8 th	Thursday	Everyone	Fundraising lunch (menu is Subway)
June	9 th	Friday	EVERYONE!	Sports Day
June	12 th	Monday	Division 13	Field trip to Museum of Vancouver
June	13 th	Tuesday	Many students All our volunteers	Immunization Clinic 9:00-10:00 am Volunteer Tea 3:15-4:15 in the Library
June	14 th	Wednesday	Divisions 1, 2, 3	Field trip to Stanley Park
June	20 th	Tuesday	Office & Library Monitors	Appreciation luncheon in the Library
June	22 nd	Thursday	Division 12	Field trip to UBC pool 9:00-1:30
June	23 rd	Friday	Division 13 Grade 7s	Canoe program field trip 9:00-1:00 Farewell Ceremony & luncheon
June	26 th	Monday	Grade 6s Grade 7s	Field trip to UBC High Ropes Course 9-3 Deep Cove Kayak Tour
June	27 th	Tuesday	Division 10 Divisions 15 & 16	Field trip - a.m. only Field trip to Playland
June	28 th	Wednesday	Whole school	Year End Assembly 11am
June	29 th	Thursday	Everyone	Last day for students 3 rd term report cards distributed
June	30 th	Friday	All staff	Administration Day



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